



# *The Communicator*

## *November 2019*

***Contra  
Costa  
Communications  
Club, Inc.***

Repeater ID: WA6KQB  
Repeaters: 145.110 MHz (-), PL 82.5  
224.300 MHz (-), PL 82.5  
444.275 MHz (+), PL 82.5  
Simplex: 146.505 MHz  
Packet "Node" CC4CC 145.05 "Mail Box" WA6KQB-1  
Web Page: <http://www.wa6kqb.org/>  
Club Address: CCCC, Inc.  
P.O. Box 20661  
El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

*A Non-Profit Club Dedicated to Service*



Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 20661  
El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Next Regular Club Meeting: November 10, 2019**  
**Denny's – 11344 San Pablo Ave (at Potrero Ave.), El Cerrito, CA 94530**  
**Breakfast at 7:15 a.m. ※ Club meeting at 8 a.m.**

**CCCC-EBARC Holiday Party**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2019 ※ 11:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Denny's – 11344 San Pablo Ave (at Potrero Ave.), El Cerrito, CA 94530**





## *The Communicator* November 2019

Contra Costa  
Communications Club, Inc.  
An ARRL-affiliated Repeater  
Group Dedicated to Service



### From the Editor



October was a busy and trying month for me. **Jeff, KJ6RHF**, with the instructors, volunteers and I helped to deliver the San

Pablo CERT English and Spanish classes. My XYL went to visit family in Mexico, then my parents went to Hong Kong to visit family. Between assisting weekly CERT classes, tending to household duties, paid work, dealing with HF on the Caltrans Auxiliary Radio Service, tending and attending Toastmasters clubs, attending Pacificon, helping with the Rodeo Hercules Fire Protection District's Open House, keeping up the various wildfires and political unrest in Hong Kong, didn't leave me much room for much else. I was missing and needing my sleep even more. It was only a matter of time before I got sick. My scheduled time-off to clean became my rest day. I'm still sniffing, but I got my flu shot. I should survive this, but I have to write a five-to-seven-minute Toastmaster speech for tomorrow....

Join in to practice in the "Light Up the SF Bay" emergency communication drill on November 16. **David, KJ6AAT** and **Diane, KK6RED** are the West County Co-coordinators. See updated information on the Club Website, <http://www.wa6qjb.org/>

7 3, Wing, K6YDE

### Sunshine Committee



The Sunshine  
Committee wishes  
you much love, the  
best health and  
happiness!

*Burgie, KE6MSF*

### President's Corner

Recent earthquakes, fires, oppressive heat and bad air have put emergency preparedness on my mind. Get your go kits and go bags together. We are all eligible for the order to evacuate until lots of rain has fallen. The county is monitoring the WA6HAM repeater and passing along fire information and updates.

The September 2019 issue of QST Magazine, Page 68, has an article of digital messaging at W1AW, ARRL Headquarters. FEMA reps were impressed. Glad to see the interest rising.

The repeaters are now off grid and fueled by solar produced power.

Be sure and get your reservation for our EBARC/4C's Holiday Party on Saturday, December 7, 2019. Seating is limited to 35 so you'd better get crackin' with a message to: [Burgie0001@yahoo.com](mailto:Burgie0001@yahoo.com).

Have a nice Thanksgiving. Keep your radio on and think about being ready for "IT," NOW!

Be Well and Be Safe.

7 3, dj, KJ6dj





## Meeting Minutes

**October 13, 2019**

The meeting was brought to order by Club President **DJ, KJ6DJ** around 8 a.m. There were 8 members present. Attendees made self-introductions.



There were no corrections to last month's minutes, and they were approved.

**Membership Report** – Many picnic pictures were taken at our annual

picnic. They all look great.

**Treasurer Reports** – [see *Treasurer Report – Editor*].

**Old Business** – Jay, KJ6WSS and Howdy, KM6BEE will have further information on the new solar panels that he and others installed. [See *Technical Committee – Club Repeater Solar Power Project Section - Editor*]



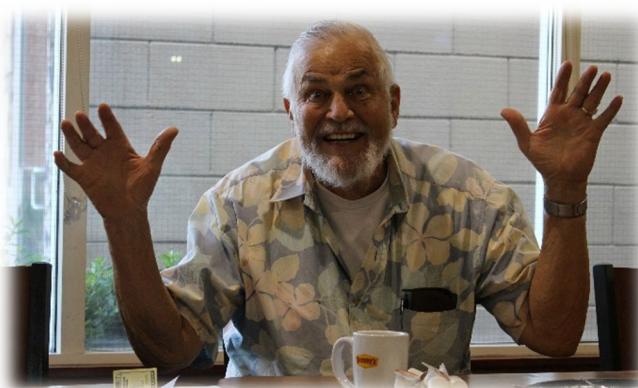
**Holiday Party** – Saturday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m to 2:30 p.m. [See *Flier - Editor*]

**Net Control Reports** – The discussion of continuing the Morning Nets will be further discussed. The check-ins have depleted to many three or four check ins. The Evening Nets will continue and/or will be discussed later also.

**New Business** – We need a member for the Board of Directors.



**Repeater Fund** – \$119.00 was collected, which included a generous donation from **Bob, W6WTJ**.



**Member Raffle** – won by XYZ XYZ, ZZZZZZ, who was not in attendance to win. Next month will be \$55.00.

**Breakfast** – Audrey, W6BBQ had the winning ticket, but graciously donated her prize money of \$6 back to the Repeater Funds.



Meeting adjourned at 8:26 a.m.

There was no **Board Meeting**.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Burgie Jones, KE6MSF**



## Membership Report

I hope to see many of you at the November 10th meeting at Denny's in El Cerrito, Come for breakfast at 7 AM and the meeting at 8 AM.

It's great to hear more members checking in both for the morning net and the Thursday night net. Please take a few minutes to check in to the nets to support your net controllers and to be ready to communicate during an emergency. I'm sure most of you have your Go Kits and your Ready Bags prepared in case Ham operators are asked to help, and to be ready in case of power outages, fires, earthquakes, and evacuations. This seems to be the "new normal."

The Holiday Party is just around the corner on Saturday, December 7th at Denny's. Seating is limited, so contact Burgie if you haven't already, [burgie0001@yahoo.com](mailto:burgie0001@yahoo.com)

Respectfully submitted,

**Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Membership Chair**

## Treasurer's Report

*Corrections (in italics):*

**Previous Disbursements:**

*e-Check – Insurance* .....\$300.00

**Previous Disbursements Total:** .....\$300.00

**September 2019**

**Checking Account:** .....\$2,946.29

**Computation Error:** .....-\$81.04

**Corrected Checking Balance**

**Forward October 2019:** .....\$3,035.71

**October 2019**

**Checking Account:** .....\$3,035.71

**Deposits:**

10/19/2019: Repeater Funds .....\$119.00

**Deposits Total:** .....\$119.00

**Checking Balance Forward** .....\$3,154.71

**Savings Account:** .....\$606.52

**Interest** .....\$0.04

**Savings Balance Forward** .....\$606.56

**Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer**

## Classified

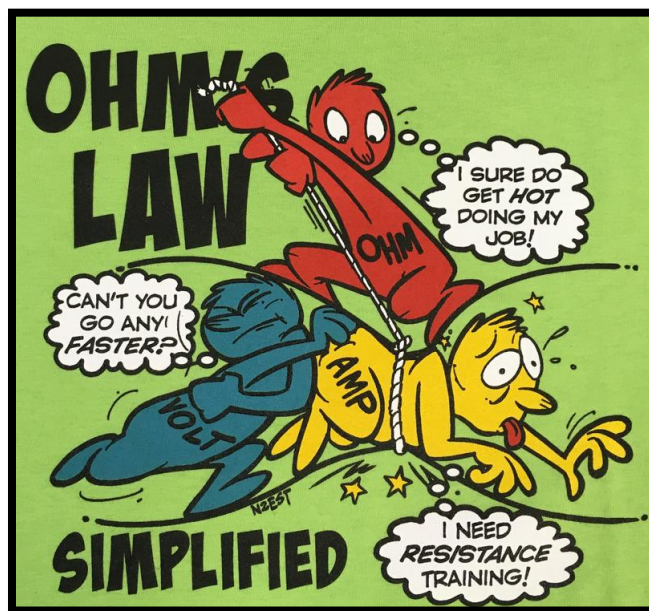
The Contra Costa Communications Club has a Classified section for members.

Rules subjected to updates by the Board:

- All items for sale shall be amateur radio-related
- One item per member per month.  
Maximum size: ¼ page (8 ½-inch x 11-inch sheet)
- Seller is encouraged to donate 10% of the proceeds to the Club from any sales through the Classified section

Please submit before end of each month when the newsletter is finalized.

- Description, accessories available, condition
- Photo(s) if available
- Price/OBO/Terms
- Contact information





## Members in Action

### **Pacificon, ARRL Pacific Division Convention, October 16 to 18, 2019**



I was only able to spend a few hours at Pacificon on Saturday, October 17, 2019, but I ran into Club Members **Alvin, KK6UQX**, **David, KJ6AAT** and **Michael, K6CUG**.



### **Communication Demonstration/Practice, Tri-City CERT Graduation Drill, October 26, 2019**



Every April and October, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT, <https://www.ready.gov/CERT/>) classes practice their skills at the joint Richmond-El Cerrito-San Pablo (and Crockett) Final Drill. Graduating classes from each city are shadowed by a radio operator to keep classes on schedule and to report their status. The drill also exposes students on capabilities of radio communication in a disaster. On October 26, 2019, **Alvin, KK6UQX** and **Carrie, KK6BKR** assisted to ensure to drill's success, as requested by City of Richmond's Office of Emergency Services. **Dj, KJ6DJ**, came to visit and offered his support.

**Jeff, KJ6RHF** and **Wing, K6YDE** assisted at the Scenario-based Exercise, where students combined all the skills they had learned, and took turns being rescuers or victims in and around a building after an earthquake scenario.



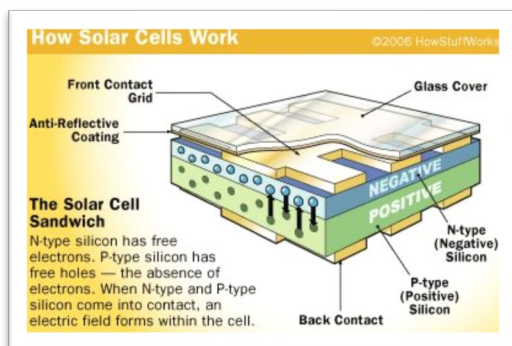


## Technical Committee

### Club Repeater Solar Power Project



After the 4C's membership voted to solarize the repeaters power in Spring 2019, **Jay, KJ6WSS** volunteered to lead the project. The physical work was completed on Friday, October 25, when the power to the repeaters was switched over to batteries charged by solar. The PG&E Public Safety Power Shutdown on the next day in El Sobrante came close to the 4C's repeater site, highlighting the importance of the project.



All labor for the solar project was volunteered. Jay and **Howdy, KE6BEE** performed most of the physical work. **Edward Carney, KM6UBY**; **Michael Cohen, KM6WEX**; and **Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB** pitched in to hoist and stabilize the heavy components. Jay worked solo most of the time, preparing for the installation of the modules and doing housekeeping.

Excluding Jay's design time, the physical work took about 3½ months, mostly on weekends. The project was delayed for two weeks due to the road to the repeater site was blocked by EBMUD construction.

Except for the new secondary battery purchased by 4C's, all materials and supplies were donated. Howdy donated eight solar collector modules, a new charge controller and wiring supplies. Jay and **Karen, KK6ZPM** donated all materials for the support structure, and Jay used the old company stake side truck for multiple hauls up and down the hill.

*Karen, KK6ZPM contributes to this report.*



**Work phases as recorded by Jay, KJ6WSS**

**08/10/2019** Jay transported the new battery to the container

**08/23** Jay dug holes for three of the concrete piers. The fourth pier would be secured to an existing slab

**08/27** Forms, built in Jay's shop, were set in the holes

**08/27** The fourth form doveled to slab

**08/27** All forms in place, leveled and ready for pour ►



▼ **08/29** Manually poured concrete completed



▼ **09/09** Edward helped Jay erect & level the structure upright





▼ 09/14/2019 Michael and Mathison helped complete the structure with top platform



▼ 10/08 Solar wiring setup begun with breaker and charge controller



▼ 10/08 Conduit routed under the floor to pull box in place next to repeater rack

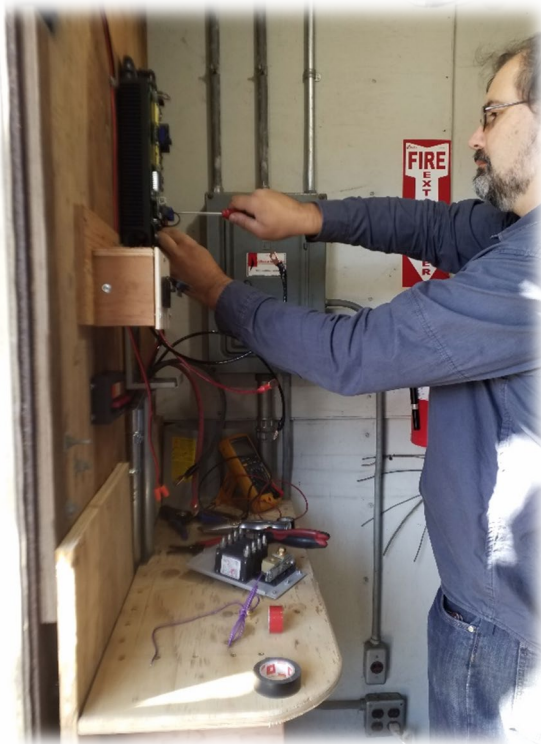




▼ 10/13/2019 Solar modules mounted and ready to connect to new battery



▼ 10/13 Howdy setting up the controller



▼ 10/13 Display screen on controller indicates solar charging new battery



▼ 10/13 Overview of new solar –powered workstation



☀ 10/25/2019 The 4C's repeaters & original battery connected to the new solarized battery and separated from PG&E source






# **Contra Costa Communications Club**

## **East Bay Amateur Radio Club**

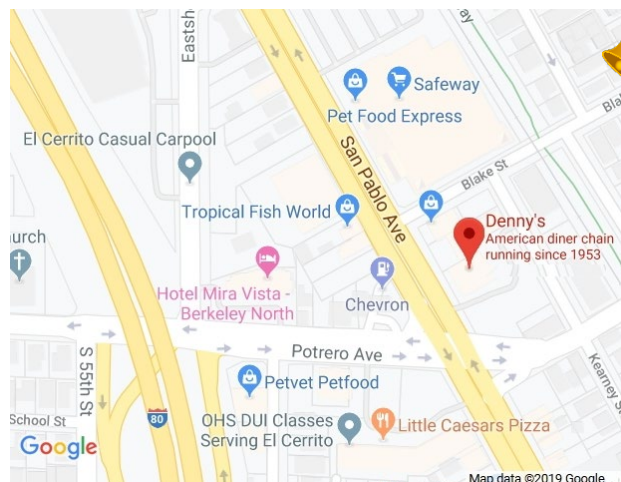
### **Joint Holiday Party**



**Saturday, December 7, 2019 ✧ 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

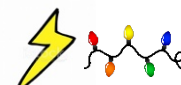
-  Order your meal from Denny's menu
-  Everyone will get a gift!
-  Space limited to 35 – **RSVP to Burgie Jones at [Burgie0001@yahoo.com](mailto:Burgie0001@yahoo.com)**

(The December 2019 4C's monthly meeting **will not** be at our regular Sunday time at Denny's)



**Denny's Restaurant**

**11344 San Pablo Ave in El Cerrito**



**For more information, contact Net  
Controllers on WA6KQB nets:**

Mo-Fr | 7:10 a.m. | 145.110 MHz (-) PL 82.5

Tue | 7:30 p.m. | 224.300 MHz (-) PL 82.5

Thur | 7:30 p.m. | 145.110 MHz (-) PL 82.5

**Bring A Friend and Introduce Them to Amateur Radio and the Club!**



→**PRINT THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE**←

<b>2019 Contra Costa Communications Club, Inc. – Daily and Weekly Nets</b>		
<b>Days</b>	<b>Net Controller</b>	<b>Repeater/Net Name//Time</b>
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	DJ, <b>KJ6DJ</b> (Temp for CAROL, <b>KK6OLL</b> ) JAN, <b>AC5RB</b> GARY, <b>KG6RJA</b> BOB, <b>W6WTJ</b> ALVIN, <b>KK6UQX</b>	145.110 MHz ※ Over-The-Hill Net 7:10 a.m.
Weekly – Monday <b>By Arrangement</b>	DJ, <b>KJ6DJ</b> Contact DJ for confirmation	444.275 MHz ※ Digital Net – 7 p.m. <b>FLDigi Net by Arrangement</b>
Weekly – Tuesday	Net Control Rotates	224.300 MHz ※ Open Net – 7:30 p.m.
Weekly – Thursday	Members Rotate	145.110 MHz ※ West Contra Costa County EmComm Net – 6:45 p.m.
Weekly - Thursday	First week: <b>[Open]</b> Second week: AUDREY, <b>W6BBQ</b> Third Week: JAN, <b>AC5RB</b> Fourth week: JEFF, <b>KJ6RHF</b> Fifth week: DJ, <b>KJ6DJ</b>	145.110 MHz ※ Club Net 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	DJ, <b>KJ6DJ</b>	145.110 MHz ※ Bay Shores Net – 9 a.m.
Saturday	DJ, <b>KJ6DJ</b>	444.275 MHz ※ CERT EmComm Net 10 a.m.

**4C's Website:** <http://www.wa6kqb.org>

#### **Club Officers For 2019**

**President:** DJ Djovida, **KJ6DJ** (2019)  
510-237-4342  
**V. Pres:** Wing Lok, **KJ6YDE** (2019)  
510-508-8810 Cell  
**Secretary:** Jan Kuhl, **AC5RB** (2019)  
510-846-3829  
**Treasurer:** Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ** (2019)  
510-682-7938 Cell  
**Director:** Alan Alsing, **W6ELS** (2021)  
510-334-9933  
**Director:** Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF** (2019)  
510-964-1476  
**Trustee:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
510-964-1476  
**EmComm West Contra Costa County:**  
DJ Djovida, **KJ6DJ**  
510-237-4342

**Repeater ID:** WA6KQB  
**Repeaters:** 145.110 MHz (-), PL 82.5  
224.300 MHz (-), PL 82.5  
444.275 MHz (+), PL 82.5  
**Simplex:** 146.505 MHz

#### **Committee Chairs**

**Membership:** Audrey Nieman, **W6BBQ**  
510-682-7938 Cell | [WA6KQB@comcast.net](mailto:WA6KQB@comcast.net)

#### **Technical Committee:**

Alan Alsing (Chair), **W6ELS**  
510-334-9933  
Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
510-964-1476  
Jay Fenton, **KJ6WSS**  
510-701-7443  
Howdy Goudey, **KE6BEE**  
510-684-9097

**Packet:** packet node CC4CC ※ 145.05 MHz

**Mail Box:** WA6KQB-1

Roger Nelums, (Chair) **KE6SZG**  
510-964-1476

**NARCC:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
510-964-1476

**Picnic:** Roger Nelums, **KE6SZG**  
510-964-1476

**Christmas:** Burgie Jones, **KE6MSF**  
510-964-1476

**Newsletter:** Wing Lok, **K6YDE**  
510-508-8810 Cell



## **OGER's Lunch**

First Wednesday of every month ※ 11 a.m.  
Sukie's Country Kitchen ※ 2400 El Portal Dr., San Pablo



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**ID-51A Plus2**  
*VHF/UHF D-STAR Portable*

**KENWOOD**



**TS-590SG**  
*HF/50MHz Transceiver*



**TM-D710G**  
*2M/440 Dualband*



**TM-V71A**  
*2M/440 DualBand*



**TM-281A**  
*2 Mtr Mobile*



**TH-D74A**  
*2M/220/440 HT*

**YAESU**  
*The radio*



**FT-991A**  
*HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver*



**FTDX1200**  
*100W HF + 6M Transceiver*



**FT-450D**  
*A100W HF + 6M Transceiver*



**FTM-400XD**  
*2M/440 Mobile*



**FT-60R**  
*2M/440 5W HT*

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